

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 EB-07

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SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NAM SUMMIT; PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST
PARTY HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATION TO
NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT HELD POORLY-ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE
AUGUST 14. HANDOUTS AND ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SEEMED TO
FOLLOW STANDARD PARTY LINE: PUERTO RICO
F US COLONY; PRSP
IS NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND US EXPLOITS PUERTO RICANS
ECONOMICALLY. EFFORT WAS MADE TO LINK US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN
PUERTO RICO WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND OUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO
COUNTER PRSP EFFORTS WERE DENOUNCED.END SUMMARY.

2. THREE MEMBERS OF PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY (PRSP)
DELEGATION TO NAM SUMMIT HELD PRESS CONFERENCE MORNING OF
AUGUST 14. GROUP PASSED OUT PRESS RELEASE, COPY OF JULY 1, 1976
HOUSE DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE
DELLUMS TO PROVIDE INDEPENDENCE TO PUERTO RICO, A TRICONTINENTAL
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HANDOUT TITLED "NOTES FOR HISTORY" WHICH CONTAINS A

RESOLUTION ON INTERNATIONAL POLICY AND SOLIDARITY
FROM THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST
PARTY AND COPIES OF TWO ARTICLES FROM PRSP DAILY
"CLARIDAD" WHICH CONNECT SOUTH AFRICA WITH US
ACTIVITIES IN PUERTO RICO. ONLY ABOUT 30 PERSONS ATTENDED
PRESS CONFERENCE INCLUDING NOVOSTI, PRENSA LATINA, SAMACHAR
AND USIS OFFICER. YUGOSLAVIA'S TANJUG WAS NOT REPRESENTED.

3. PRESS RELEASE, WHICH ENGLISH-SPEAKING PRSP REP THEN
PROCEEDED TO READ ALOUD, APPEARS TO OUR UNFAMILIAR EYES TO BE
STANDARD RHETORIC. IN SUMMARY, IT SAID PRSP IS SEEKING
BROADEST CONSENSUS IN SUPPORT OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE,
ACCUSES THE "COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION" OF POLITICAL REPRESSION
(INCLUDING MASS STERILIZATION) AND ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION. IT
ALSO CLAIMS US MILITARY BASES IN PUERTO RICO THREATEN PEACE IN
THE CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA. WHAT APPEARS TO BE NEWLY-
ADDED PARAGRAPH DENOUNCES "THE INTENSE PRESSURES AND
MANEUVERS BEING WAGED BY THE UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT
AMONG SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL FORUMS WITH THE
PURPOSE OF OBSTRUCTING THE GROWING SOLIDARITY TOWARDS THE
CAUSE OF INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO".

4. IN DESULTORY QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD WHICH FOLLOWED
RECITATION, CORRESPONDENTS QUESTIONED PRSP SPOKESMAN CLOSELY
ON HOW PRSP RECONCILED ITS DEDICATION TO ARMED STRUGGLE WITH
ITS PARTICIPATION IN FORTHCOMING ELECTION.
RESPONSE WAS THAT BECAUSE JUDICIAL SYSTEM IS APPLIED
TO PUERTO RICO, THERE EXISTS THE APPARENT PARADOX THAT
THE PRSP CAN SAY PUBLICLY IT SUPPORTS ARMED STRUGGLE AND
YET REMAINS A LEGAL POLITICAL PARTY. THIS WAS JUSTIFIED
AS A MEANS TO LINK THE PRSP WITH THE "RURAL MASSES".

5. WHEN ASKED WHAT US LAWS DO NOT APPLY IN PUERTO RICO,
SPOKESMAN ANSWERED THAT PUERTO RICAN CONSTITUTION SAYS
THAT ALL US LAWS THAT ARE NOT LOCALLY INAPPLICABLE APPLY
TO PUERTO RICO. WHEN QUESTIONER CONCLUDED THAT RESULT WAS
COMPLETE EQUALITY BETWEEN US AND PUERTO RICAN CITIZENS,
SPOKESMAN WAS ASKED FOR EXAMPLES OF DIFFERENCES BY SYMPATHETIC
PLANT. SPOKESMAN CITED INABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, US'S ABILITY TO SEND PUERTO RICANS
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TO TAKE PART IN ITS WARS OF AGGRESSION IN OTHER PARTS OF
THE WORLD AND LACK OF COMPLETE PARTICIPATION AND OF EQUAL
POWERS OF PUERTO RICAN REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON.

6. NOVOSTI CORRESPONDENT ASKED ABOUT MILITARY BASES WHICH
LED SPOKESMAN TO LINK BASES IN PUERTO RICO WITH SOUTH AFRICAN
BASES CITING HABITAT CONFERENCE DOCUMENT.

7. WHEN LE MONDE MAN ASKED IF THEY RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM CUBA THE ANSWER WAS YES BY WAY OF SUPPORT IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS, IN PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS TO BE CIRCULATED WORLDWIDE AND BY THE FACT THAT PRSP HAS PERMANENT MISSION AND DELEGATE BEFORE THE CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY. IN FURTHER QUESTIONING, OTHERS MENTIONED AS PROVIDING AT LEAST MORAL SUPPORT WERE THE SOVIET UNION, CHINA, MEXICO, PERU, GUYANA, JAMAICA AND PANAMA.

8. IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, PRSP SPOKESMAN STATED THEY HAD PRESENTED A RESOLUTION AND ALSO AMENDMENTS TO NAM CONFERENCE BUT REFUSED TO DISCUSS DETAILS.

9. WE ARE POUCHING DOCUMENTS AND TRANSCRIPT OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

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